GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6711
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2000
NON-AVAILABILITY OF MEDICINE IN HOSPITALS .
CHANDRA NATH SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `non availability of medicines in Safdarjung Hospital,` appearing in Dainik Jagaran dated March 8, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether there is nexus between the hospital staff and the medicine dealers and even the items required for operations are not available in the hospitals and have to be brought by the patients themselves;

(d) the norms adopted for the procurement of medicines and other items by the Government hospitals viz. Safdarjung and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia; and

(e) the reasons for not considering it appropriate to make purchases of medicines and other items from Kendriya Bhandar keeping the quality and the rates in view?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item refers to the following:-

1. Non availability of medicines in Safdarjung Hospital.

2. Nexus between the hospital staff and the medicine dealers.

3. Non availability of items required for operation.

4. Information to the public for non-availability of medicines.

(c) The essential and life saving medicines and the items required for operation theatres are available to the patients as per the formulary and the guidelines devised by the hospital. No information is available regarding nexus between the hospital staff and the medicine dealer.

(d)&(e) Where rate contract for medicines and other items are available with Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D), the same are procured under the DGS&D rate contractFor all other medicines annual indents are placed on Medical Store Organisation (MSO) to supply the medicines.Whenever non-availability certificate is given by MSO to supply the medicines. Whenever non-availability certificate is given by MSO the same are purchased at the approved rates of Joint Purchase Committee. However, in case of emergency and non availability of approved rates as per the procedures laid down above the procurement of medicines and other items are made in small quantity from Govt. approved outlets like Super Bazar, Kendriya Bhandar etc.